

Abstract

The invention pertains to a carrier composition comprising (a) at least 30 wt% of a synthetic cracking component, based on the total weight of the carrier composition, 5 which comprises oxidic compounds of one or more trivalent metallic elements, tetravalent metallic elements, and divalent metallic elements, said cracking component comprising elemental clay platelets with an average diameter of 1 μm or less and an average degree of stacking of 20 platelets per stack or less, and/or comprising a cogel with a saponite content C_A of less than 60 %, in which the total of sodium and 10 potassium amounts to less than 1 wt%, based on the total weight of the cogel, and (b) 1 - 25 wt% of a zeolite Y, based on the total weight of the carrier composition, with a unit cell size below 24.35 Å. The invention further pertains to a catalyst comprising said carrier composition and at least a hydrogenation metal, and a process for converting heavy feedstock into middle distillates using said catalyst.